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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,037	06/30/2003	Sanjay Ghemawat	0026-0031	8255

44989 7590 07/09/2007  
HARRITY SNYDER, LLP  
11350 Random Hills Road  
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FAIRFAX, VA 22030

EXAMINER

LOVEL, KIMBERLY M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2167

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/09/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Advisory Action</b> <b>Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/608,037	GHEMAWAT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kimberly Lovel	2167	

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 28 June 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires \_\_\_\_\_ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

#### AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

#### AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

#### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: In regards to the arguments on page 3 concerning claim 1, the applicants state that Staveley does not disclose or suggest that master machine 20 stores the data in the staging tables. Data loading module 44 is a program. The examiner respectfully disagrees since programs have the ability to be installed and executed on a machine such as the master machine (see Staveley: column 2, lines 59-62).

In regards to the arguments on page 4 concerning claim 1, the applicants state that Bolosky and Staveley do not disclose or suggest a master that is configured to periodically instruct, after recording the location information, the servers to provide information regarding the data stored by the servers. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Probing is considered to represent the limitation of periodically instructing the servers to provide information since probing can be defined as an exploratory action designed to investigate and obtain information. Staveley discloses a program used by the data collector to obtain a list of all local files including information about the file, such as file name, file size, date and time created, date and time modified, file type, permissions, messages about the file, etc. The files are considered to represent the data stored by the servers and therefore it is considered that Staveley teaches the limitation "periodically instruct, after recording the location information, the servers to provide information regarding the data stored by the servers."

In regards to the arguments on page 5 concerning claim 1, applicant states that Staveley does not disclose or suggest that master machine 20 is configured to periodically instruct, after recording the location information, the target machine 18 to provide information. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Staveley in column 2, lines 59-65 states that the instructions are installed and executed on the master and therefore the master is considered to be configured to perform the operations of probing and collecting.

In regards to the argument concerning claim 17 that the combination of Bolosky and Staveley fails to suggest a master is configured to instruct one of the servers to perform an action concerning the data, the action causing a change in the location information, the examiner respectfully disagrees. According to column 10, lines 45-59 of Staveley, the data is moved using a copy command. Moving data is considered to represent an action that changes the location information.

The rejections of claims 8-11 are maintained since as described above, it is believed that the combination of Bolosky and Staveley teach all limitations of claim 1.

*Xuen S. Lu*  
*Temporary Primary Patent Examiner*  
*Art Unit 2167*